

Mr. G. R. Peterson  
 Site Vice President  
 Catawba Nuclear Station  
 Duke Energy Corporation  
 4800 Concord Road  
 York, South Carolina 29745-9635

January 15 1999

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENTS - CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. MA4243 AND MA4244)

Dear Mr. Peterson:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 175 to Facility Operating License NPF-35 and Amendment No. 167 to Facility Operating License NPF-52 for the Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, in response to your application dated December 7, 1998.

The amendments revise Section 3.8.3, "Diesel Fuel Oil, Lube Oil, and Starting Air," of the joint Units 1 and 2 Technical Specifications (TS), correcting the discrepancies between the current design and this section. Specifically, the revised Section 3.8.3 reduces the required minimum inventory of diesel engine lubrication oil from a sump inventory of 600 to 400 gallons, and changes the inventory range where remedial action is required from 575-600 gallons to 375-400 gallons. The associated Bases pages are also revised.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. A Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,  
 Original signed by:  
 Peter S. Tam, Senior Project Manager  
 Project Directorate II-2  
 Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-413 and  
 50-414

- Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 175 to NPF-35  
 2. Amendment No. 167 to NPF-52  
 3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 15, 1999

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A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. A Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter S. Tam".

Peter S. Tam, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate II-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-413 and 50-414

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 175 to NPF-35  
2. Amendment No. 167 to NPF-52  
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

Catawba Nuclear Station

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Catawba Nuclear Station

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION  
NORTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION  
SALUDA RIVER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.  
DOCKET NO. 50-413  
CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1  
AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 175  
License No. NPF-35

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
  - A. The application for amendment to the Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (the facility) Facility Operating License No. NPF-35 filed by the Duke Energy Corporation, acting for itself, North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation and Saluda River Electric Cooperative, Inc. (licensees), dated December 7, 1998, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations as set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

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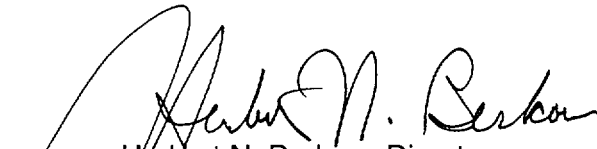
2. Accordingly, the license is hereby amended by page changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-35 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 175, which are attached hereto, are hereby incorporated into this license. Duke Energy Corporation shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance, to be implemented concurrently with implementation of Amendment No. 173.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Herbert N. Berkow, Director  
Project Directorate II-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Technical Specification  
Changes

Date of Issuance: January 15, 1999



UNITED STATES  
**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION  
NORTH CAROLINA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY NO. 1  
PIEDMONT MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY  
DOCKET NO. 50-414  
CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2  
AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 167  
License No. NPF-52

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
  - A. The application for amendment to the Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 2 (the facility) Facility Operating License No. NPF-52 filed by the Duke Energy Corporation, acting for itself, North Carolina Municipal Power Agency No. 1 and Piedmont Municipal Power Agency (licensees), dated December 7, 1998, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations as set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

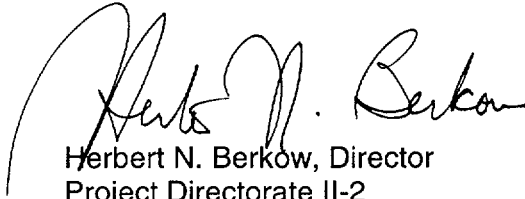
2. Accordingly, the license is hereby amended by page changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-52 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 167, which are attached hereto, are hereby incorporated into this license. Duke Energy Corporation shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance, to be implemented concurrently with implementation of Amendment No. 165.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Herbert N. Berkow, Director  
Project Directorate II-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Technical Specification  
Changes

Date of Issuance: January 15, 1999



ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 175

TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-35

AND LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 167

TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-52

DOCKET NOS. 50-413 AND 50-414

Replace the following pages of the joint Technical Specifications (Appendix A of the Operating Licenses) with the enclosed pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain vertical lines indicating the areas of change.

Remove

3.8.3-1  
3.8.3-3

Insert

3.8.3-1  
3.8.3-3

Replace the following pages of the Technical Specifications Bases with the enclosed pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain vertical lines indicating the areas of change.

Remove

B 3.8.3-1  
B 3.8.3-3  
B 3.8.3-5

Insert

B 3.8.3-1  
B 3.8.3-3  
B 3.8.3-5

3.8 ELECTRICAL POWER SYSTEMS

3.8.3 Diesel Fuel Oil, Lube Oil, and Starting Air

LCO 3.8.3 The stored diesel fuel oil, lube oil, and starting air subsystem shall be within limits for each required diesel generator (DG).

APPLICABILITY: When associated DG is required to be OPERABLE.

ACTIONS

-----NOTE-----  
Separate Condition entry is allowed for each DG.  
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CONDITION		REQUIRED ACTION	COMPLETION TIME
A.	One or more DGs with fuel oil inventory < 77,100 gal and > 66,100 gal.	A.1 Restore fuel oil level to within limits.	48 hours
B.	One or more DGs with lube oil inventory < 400 gal and > 375 gal.	B.1 Restore lube oil inventory to within limits.	48 hours
C.	One or more DGs with stored fuel oil total particulates not within limit.	C.1 Restore fuel oil total particulates within limit.	7 days

(continued)

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS (continued)

SURVEILLANCE	FREQUENCY
SR 3.8.3.2 Verify lubricating oil inventory is $\geq$ 400 gal.	31 days
SR 3.8.3.3 Verify fuel oil properties of new and stored fuel oil are tested in accordance with, and maintained within the limits of, the Diesel Fuel Oil Testing Program.	In accordance with the Diesel Fuel Oil Testing Program
SR 3.8.3.4 Verify each DG air start receiver pressure is $\geq$ 210 psig.	31 days
SR 3.8.3.5 Check for and remove accumulated water from each fuel oil storage tank.	31 days
SR 3.8.3.6 For each fuel oil storage tank: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Drain the fuel oil;</li> <li>b. Remove the sediment; and</li> <li>c. Clean the tank.</li> </ul>	10 years

## B 3.8 ELECTRICAL POWER SYSTEMS

### B 3.8.3 Diesel Fuel Oil, Lube Oil, and Starting Air

#### BASES

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#### BACKGROUND

Each diesel generator (DG) is provided with a storage tank having a fuel oil capacity sufficient to operate that diesel for a period of 7 days while the DG is supplying maximum post loss of coolant accident load demand discussed in the UFSAR, Section 9.5.4.2 (Ref. 1). The maximum load demand is calculated using the assumption that a minimum of any two DGs is available. This onsite fuel oil capacity is sufficient to operate the DGs for longer than the time to replenish the onsite supply from outside sources.

Fuel oil is transferred from storage tank to day tank by gravity transfer. All outside tanks and piping are located underground.

For proper operation of the standby DGs, it is necessary to ensure the proper quality of the fuel oil. Regulatory Guide 1.137 (Ref. 2) addresses the recommended fuel oil practices as supplemented by ANSI N195 (Ref. 3). The fuel oil properties governed by these SRs are the water and sediment content, the kinematic viscosity, specific gravity (or API gravity), and impurity level.

The DG lubrication system is designed to provide sufficient lubrication to permit proper operation of its associated DG under all loading conditions. The system is required to circulate the lube oil to the diesel engine working surfaces and to remove excess heat generated by friction during operation. Each engine oil sump contains an inventory capable of supporting a minimum of 7 days of operation. This supply is sufficient to allow the operator to replenish lube oil from outside sources.

Each DG has an air start system with adequate capacity for five successive start attempts on the DG without recharging the air start receiver(s).

BASES

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ACTIONS

The ACTIONS Table is modified by a Note indicating that separate Condition entry is allowed for each DG. This is acceptable, since the Required Actions for each Condition provide appropriate compensatory actions for each inoperable DG subsystem. Complying with the Required Actions for one inoperable DG subsystem may allow for continued operation, and subsequent inoperable DG subsystem(s) are governed by separate Condition entry and application of associated Required Actions.

A.1

In this Condition, the 7 day fuel oil supply for a DG is not available. However, the Condition is restricted to fuel oil level reductions that maintain at least a 6 day supply. These circumstances may be caused by events, such as full load operation required after an inadvertent start while at minimum required level, or feed and bleed operations, which may be necessitated by increasing particulate levels or any number of other oil quality degradations. This restriction allows sufficient time for obtaining the requisite replacement volume and performing the analyses required prior to addition of fuel oil to the tank. A period of 48 hours is considered sufficient to complete restoration of the required level prior to declaring the DG inoperable. This period is acceptable based on the remaining capacity (> 6 days), the fact that procedures will be initiated to obtain replenishment, and the low probability of an event during this brief period.

B.1

With lube oil inventory < 400 gal, sufficient lubricating oil to support 7 days of continuous DG operation at full load conditions may not be available. However, the Condition is restricted to lube oil volume reductions that maintain at least a 6 day supply. This restriction allows sufficient time to obtain the requisite replacement volume. A period of 48 hours is considered sufficient to complete restoration of the required volume prior to declaring the DG inoperable. This period is acceptable based on the remaining capacity (> 6 days), the low rate of usage, the fact that procedures will be initiated to obtain replenishment, and the low probability of an event during this brief period.

C.1

This Condition is entered as a result of a failure to meet the acceptance criterion of SR 3.8.3.3. Normally, trending of particulate levels allows sufficient time to correct high particulate levels prior to reaching the limit

**BASES**

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**ACTIONS (continued)**

for reasons other than addressed by Conditions A through E, the associated DG may be incapable of performing its intended function and must be immediately declared inoperable.

---

**SURVEILLANCE  
REQUIREMENTS**

SR 3.8.3.1

This SR provides verification that there is an adequate inventory of fuel oil in the storage tanks to support each DG's operation for 7 days at full load. The 7 day period is sufficient time to place the unit in a safe shutdown condition and to bring in replenishment fuel from an offsite location.

The 31 day Frequency is adequate to ensure that a sufficient supply of fuel oil is available, since low level alarms are provided and unit operators would be aware of any large uses of fuel oil during this period.

SR 3.8.3.2

This Surveillance ensures that sufficient lube oil inventory is available to support at least 7 days of full load operation for each DG. The 400 gal requirement is based on the DG manufacturer consumption values for the run time of the DG. In order to account for the lube oil sump tank inventory decrease that occurs when the DG is started, the 400 gal requirement shall be met with the Surveillance conducted while the DG is running.

A 31 day Frequency is adequate to ensure that a sufficient lube oil supply is available, since DG starts and run time are closely monitored by the unit staff.

SR 3.8.3.3

The tests listed below are a means of determining whether new fuel oil is of the appropriate grade and has not been contaminated with substances that would have an immediate, detrimental impact on diesel engine combustion. If results from these tests are within acceptable limits, the fuel oil may be added to the storage tanks without concern for contaminating the entire volume of fuel oil in the storage tanks. These



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 175 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-35  
AND AMENDMENT NO. 167 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-52  
DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION, ET AL.  
CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOS. 50-413 AND 50-414

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated December 7, 1998, Duke Energy Corporation, et al. (DEC, the licensee), submitted a request for changes to the Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, Technical Specifications (TS). The requested changes would revise TS 3.8.3, "Diesel Fuel Oil, Lube Oil, and Starting Air," correcting the discrepancies between the current design and this section.

Section 3.8.3, "Diesel Fuel Oil, Lube Oil, and Starting Air," of the joint Catawba Units 1 and 2 TS delineates operational and surveillance requirements (SRs) for the subject components. On December 7, 1998, Duke Energy Corporation (DEC, the licensee) requested that certain parts of this section and the associated Bases section be revised. DEC has determined that these parts, as they currently stand, are in error and not in agreement with the existing design. The staff's review of DEC's proposed corrections is set forth below.

2.0 DISCUSSION AND EVALUATION

2.1 Technical Specifications Section 3.8.3

CONDITION 3.8.3.B currently states "One or more DGs [diesel generators] with lube oil inventory <600 gal and >575 gal." The licensee proposed to correct this to "One or more DGs with lube oil inventory <400 gal and >375 gal." SR 3.8.3.2 currently specifies that lubricating oil inventory be verified  $\geq 600$  gal per 31 days. The licensee proposed to correct the inventory requirement to be  $\geq 400$  gal per 31 days.

The Diesel Generator Lube Oil System provides lubrication to permit proper operation of the diesel generators under all loading conditions. The system circulates the lube oil to the diesel engine working surfaces and removes excess heat generated by friction during engine operation. Each engine oil sump contains an inventory capable of supporting a minimum of 7 days of operation. This inventory is sufficient to allow the operator to replenish lube oil from outside sources.

The licensee stated that a recent calculation determined that a total volume of 363 gallons of lubricating oil would be needed in the sump to account for an unusable volume (161.4 gallons occupied by an antivortexing baffle) and oil burn (201.6 gallons for 7 days) to meet the 7-day operation requirement. For conservatism, the licensee proposed a minimum inventory of

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400 gallons, and a range of 375-400 gallons in which actions have to be taken to restore lube oil inventory to within limits. The licensee stated that the normal level in the sump tank is approximately 540 gallons when the diesel engine is in standby condition (not running). When the diesel engine is running, the sump tank inventory drops to approximately 450 gallons. The licensee, therefore, believes that the proposed new TS requirement of 400 gallons can be easily met whether or not the engine is running. Furthermore, the licensee plans to raise the existing low lube oil alarm setpoint from its present value of 385 gallons to 415 gallons, ensuring that operators can be prompted to actions before the 400-gallon limit is reached.

The licensee stated that the current limit of 600 gallons and action range of 575-600 gallons came from erroneous information in the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR). Section 9.5.7.2.1 of the UFSAR indicated that the lube oil sump tank has a 700-gallon capacity, and that the normal operating lube oil inventory is 600 gallons. The licensee will revise the UFSAR to be consistent with the actual design in accordance with the requirements of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations Section 50.71(e).

The staff reviewed the licensee's submitted information and agreed that errors were inadvertently introduced when TS Section 3.8.3 was issued by Amendment Nos. 173 and 165 (September 30, 1998). The licensee's proposed changes would correct the errors and are, therefore, acceptable.

## 2.2 TS Bases Section B 3.8.3

The licensee proposed to delete the sentence in the fourth paragraph under BACKGROUND that reads: "The onsite storage in addition to the engine oil sump is sufficient to ensure 7 days of continuous operation." As previously stated in Section 2.1 of this Safety Evaluation, the engine oil sump inventory alone is sufficient to ensure 7 days of continuous operation. The deletion of this sentence clarifies this paragraph and is consistent with the current design and revised TS Section 3.8.3.

Under ACTIONS B.1, the licensee proposed to revise the minimum lube oil inventory from the current 600 gallons to 400 gallons to support 7 days of continuous operation. This change is consistent with the current design and TS Section 3.8.3.

Under ACTIONS C.1, the licensee proposed to make a correction to reference the appropriate portions of TS Section 3.8.3. The revised second sentence (strikeout shows previous wording) now reads: "Normally, trending of particulate levels allows sufficient time to correct high particulate levels prior to reaching the limit for reasons other than addressed by Conditions A through E..." This correction is consistent with TS Section 3.8.3.

Under SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS for SR 3.8.3.2, the last sentence currently reads: "Implicit in this SR is the requirement to verify the capability to transfer the lube oil from its storage location to the DG, when the DG lube oil sump does not hold adequate inventory for 7 days of full load operation without the level reaching the manufacturer recommended minimum level." The licensee proposed to replace this last sentence with one that reads: "In order to account for the lube oil sump tank inventory decrease that occurs when the DG is started, the 400 gal requirement shall be met with the surveillance conducted while the DG is running." The licensee also proposed to rewrite the next paragraph to read: "A 31-day Frequency is adequate to ensure that a sufficient lube oil supply is available since DG starts



and run time are closely monitored by the unit staff." These revisions are consistent with the current design and TS Section 3.8.3.

The TS Bases is a licensee-controlled document, and is not part of the TS (10 CFR 50.36(a)). However, the staff reviewed the licensee's proposed changes as supplemental information for the changes in TS Section 3.8.3. The staff finds the proposed changes to the Bases acceptable.

### 3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the South Carolina State official, Mr. Virgil Autrey, was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendments. The State official had no comments.

### 4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendments change requirements with respect to the use of a facility component located within the restricted area and change surveillance requirements. The NRC staff has determined that the amendments involve no significant increase in the amounts, no significant change in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The staff has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendments involve no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (63 FR 69328 dated December 16, 1998). Accordingly, the amendments meet the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendments.

### 5.0 CONCLUSION

The staff has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributors: William T. LeFave  
Peter S. Tam

Date: January 15, 1999